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1. The Hungarian Army has been completely organized and equipped according to the Soviet pattern. Plans were made as early as 1950 for its expansion, were undertaken slowly and are still going on.
2. The Defense Ministry, under which all armed forces stand, is organized into high sections, sections, and technical sections. The Minister exercises his authority through the high sections.
3. The units of the army are partly under high commands, partly directly under the Ministry. The high commands are those of divisions and artillery brigades. The commands directly under the Ministry are: AAA formations; the river flotilla; communications troops; technical troops; reinforcement organizations; the Military Institute; and depots. The air command has charge of: flyer formations; parachute formations; airfields; ground service units; and reinforcement formations.
4. The army high commands are divided into two groups. One is formed by the Honvéd area commands, which are territorial formations, having charge of barracks, training, exercise areas, target ranges, etc., as well as materiel. There are four of these area commands, located in Budapest, Pécs, Szeged and Debrecen.
5. The army corps commands are the largest tactical formations. There are three of them: XI Armored Corps in Budapest, VI Army Corps in Székesfehérvár, and III Army Corps in Kecskemét. Everything heard in recent months indicates that a fourth corps command is being formed, to have its headquarters in Pápa or somewhere in the neighborhood. This will probably have the number IX. The units of this command are being organized in West Hungary in Győr, Sopron, Magyaróvár, Komárom and the neighborhood.

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6. It should be noted that the whole Hungarian Army is now grouped for movement in a southerly direction. Among other things this is indicated by the buildup of the road net, the fortification and the placing of the major depots. Troop distribution points in the same direction.
7. Along the southern border there are six first-class divisions; three in the trans-Danube area, at Nagykanizsa (troops in Zala and Südvas counties), Kaposvár (troops in Somogy and West Baranya counties), and Tab (troops in Tolna and East Baranya counties); two in the great plains at Kalácsa and Kiskunfélegyháza; and one east of the Tisza, at Szeged. These six divisions have been brought to high peace strength, and have been fully supplied with divisional supporting troops and trains. They are especially well trained in defensive combat.
8. Of second-class rifle divisions there are also six. Three are in West Hungary, at Veszprém, Keszthely and Győr. One is in the great plain at Szolnok. Two are east of the Tisza at Nyiregyháza and Miskolc. Neither in number of troops nor in completeness of equipment do these equal the first three divisions named. Their equipment is available in depots, but their mobilization would take longer; their train and reinforcement organizations are on a skeleton basis.
9. Of these twelve divisions, four have been motorized; that is, there is motor equipment available for the transport of the infantry and no horse-drawn transport. The objective is to bring all 12 divisions to this status within a foreseeable period.
10. There are two armored divisions, of high peace strength, at Esztergom and Gyöngyös. Everything seems to indicate that a third armored division is being formed in the area Győr-Pápa-Magyaróvár, although it will still be some time before it is complete. Organizational plans call for it to be ready by the end of 1954.
11. If these divisions are closely examined, the conclusion must be that although the Hungarian Army is numerous, it is technically quite backward. The proportion of armor is very low.
12. The artillery brigades are directly under the army high command, and intended for the formation of artillery strong points. They appeared on the T/O for the first time in 1952. By early 1954 there were three such brigades. One was in the trans-Danube in Tolna county. One had its headquarters in Szeged and its formations in various garrisons. The third had its headquarters in Miskolc and the troops in the northeast part of the country, and consisted largely of heavy artillery and rocket projectors.
13. Divisions have AAA formations attached, but those mentioned below have nothing to do with divisional troops in an organizational sense. We are now dealing with AAA troops for home defense, all of which are motorized and very mobile. They are called AAA "divisions" and nine of them have been identified. Three are in the Budapest area, one in Budapest-West, one in Budapest-East and one in Budapest-Gsepel. One is in Székesfehérvár and its industrial area. One is in Komárom, covering the Danube crossings. One is at Szolnok, covering the Tisza crossings. One is in Miskolc for the protection of the industrial district in Borsod County. One is being set up at Pécs, and another is being set up in Szeged. The first five are complete. The rest have only one AAA regiment, and the last two not even that. Equipment is still incomplete in most cases.

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14. There has been no special development of the river flotilla in the last two years. There are four monitors. The whole flotilla is organized in two regiments.
15. Each division has its own technical formations. In addition there are technical troops directly under the Defense Ministry, consisting of three engineer brigades, one railroad regiment and a bridge-building regiment. The Soviet leaders believe that Western air strength would knock out early the most important bridges in Hungary. For this reason great importance is attached to building up a strong reserve of trained engineers capable of building bridges. Large quantities of bridging material are being stored at strategic points. The reserves of such material at various points along the Danube are now much greater than the Hungarian Army would ever need.
16. The Ministry also has a communications brigade, equipped with a large number of radio apparatus.
17. There is a noteworthy number of depots of a permanent character. The Soviets count on logistic support being badly hampered by air action in any conflict. In addition, the Ministry counts on being required to supply foreign troops as well as Hungarian. It is quite visible from the placing and number of the depots, that Hungary is expected to be forward base for the Soviet Army.
18. In addition to the army formations there are several different supporting organizations of a paramilitary character, under military discipline, which in the event of war would form the home organizations. These include the military labor units, made up of politically unreliable elements, 16 battalions strong, the fire service, and the air observation and warning service.
19. The air high command is under the Defense Ministry and forms a high section of it. (Légügyi főcsapartvesető). All air formations, parachute troops, airfields and their logistic support fall under this command.
20. There are at present two air divisions. One has its headquarters at Kecskemét. Under it are: a fighter-bomber regiment at Kecskemét, equipped with IL-10 planes; a fighter-bomber regiment at Veszprém, equipped with YAKs; an air transport regiment at Budapest, with LI-2 planes. The other is a fighter division with headquarters at Kunszék, not yet complete. The most important airfields are in Soviet hands.
21. Of airborne forces there are a parachute brigade of two regiments, and an airborne regiment with two battalions. The brigade command is at Kaposvár-Taszár, and its units are at Kaposvár and Szolnok. The parachute formations do not have their own transport and are equipped only with light infantry weapons.
22. The ground support units are stationed at airfields, under command of air force. There are now eight battalions of them.
23. All air schools are under the air force command. There are now a pilots' school, an air officers' school, an air NCO school, a mechanics' school, and an air observation school, beside various courses of short duration. The Hungarian air force is really only a symbolic and skeleton organization. It would hardly count in case of war. The main reason for this backwardness is that the Soviets do not regard the Hungarian forces as sufficiently reliable. An army without an air force in support can only be as independent as the commanders of the supporting air force permit.

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